

INDEXA



Summer 1996

Issue 35

A non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio, worldwide peace, and friendship
Daily Information Session—14.236 @ 23:30Z

Kermadec Islands—ZL8RI DXpedition

by Al Hernandez, WA3YVN

Raoul Island, the northern-most island in the Kermadec Islands group, is located halfway between New Zealand and Tonga in the Pacific's volcanic "ring of fire."

It is a bewitching Pacific paradise that has captured the imaginations of many would-be DXers, luring some to its shores over the past twenty years.

The island's volcanic core vents with alarming frequency. The resulting earthquakes and eruptions have sounded a caution alarm with the New Zealand government which severely restricts the number of permits that are granted for non-government activities on the island.

DXers who are fortunate enough to receive permission to land and operate from Raoul Island are faced with a three- to four-day journey through the stormy Pacific. The inclement weather often encountered in this region has adversely affected some recent DXpeditions—in one case, wrecking the DXpeditioners' ship, leaving them stranded on the island for several weeks.

The May, 1996, ZL8RI Kermadec DXpedition was more fortunate than some past expeditions. We ran into a ferocious storm one day after departing from Napier, New Zealand. For three days our 80-foot sailing ship, the "EVOHE," rolled and heaved violently as if to remind us that we, too, had to pay the price. But, as if by an



The ZL8RI DXpedition team: (l-r) Al, WA3YVN; Peter, ZL3GQ; Lee, ZL2AL; Ken, ZL2HU; Chris, ZL2DX; Ron, ZL2TT; and Bin, JA3EMU.

(Photo courtesy of: Lee Jennings, ZL2AL)

act of kindness to the DX fraternity, the weather began to improve twelve hours before arrival. By the time we sighted Raoul Island, the seas had calmed down enough to allow the on schedule landing of all equipment and personnel.

The first Zodiac went ashore at approximately 2000 UTC on May 3, 1996. Landing and transporting all equipment to the field site two miles away took all of the first day—it was winter there and got dark by 1730 local time. Setting up proceeded well into the night and the next day. We made the decision to wait until

most of the antennas and stations were in place before starting the operation. The entire team worked efficiently without distractions and at 0400 UTC, May 5, 1996, we commenced operations with four complete stations on the air.

The DXpedition team, consisting of Ken, ZL2HU (Leader); Lee, ZL2AL; Chris, ZL2DX; Ron, ZL2TT; Peter, ZL3GQ; Bin, JA3EMU; and Al, WA3YVN (ZL3AH), continued to enjoy good weather and good fortune until May 11th when a strong gale damaged the 160m antennas. The next day one of the two diesel generators failed and could not be

...continued on next page

inside...

New Staff Member—Royce, WA4AFE
DXCC 2000
5A1A—Stateside Manager

New Life Members
Extra Help
Cocos-Keeling—VK9CT

ZL8RI.....from previous page

repaired. However, the weather cleared up just in time to allow the team to pack and load all gear back on the ship for an on schedule departure on May 14, 1996, at 0100 UTC.

Once again the weather remained good for one day, but as the weather reports came in we knew that we better have our last meal of the trip. For the next three days, the 80-foot ship seemed to be dwarfed by the towering waves in the Pacific and, after we lost one of the two engines, we began to have some doubts as to whether or not the ship was going to make it back to New Zealand under its own power. However, we did make it back under sail with a little engine power and a lot of wind power. Take my word for it, there is nothing better than redundant propulsion systems, even if it takes a little longer to get there.

QSO Statistics

We were active on all HF bands (160-10m) and primary modes (CW, SSB, and RTTY). The team made 34,000 QSOs including 1,439 on RTTY and 303 on 160m. The following is a breakdown by continent and mode:

	NA	SA	EU	AS	AF	OC
SSB	10,150	180	1,780	5,560	40	840
CW	6,800	60	1,770	5,100	20	260
RTTY	560	2	80	780	1	16

The above data shows a QSO split of 54.6% SSB, 41.2% CW, and 4.2% RTTY.

The feedback I've received from the DX community indicates that ZL8RI was a successful DXpedition. Personally, I enjoyed the company of the entire DXpedition team and the warm hospitality that they and their families extended to me in New Zealand. Being able to personally achieve an average of 1,000 QSOs per day—including RTTY and low band operation—has given me a good sense of accomplishment.

Primary equipment and final remarks

This DXpedition would not have been possible without the support of many equipment manufacturers. The primary equipment consisted of Yaesu radios and linear amplifiers; Nagara, Cushcraft, The Radio Works and Crestone antennas; Timewave DSP filters; LinkPlus voice compressors; ZJ Electronics low band accessories; and Heil Sound boom sets.

My sincere thanks goes to INDEXA;

NCDXF; EUDXF; the worldwide DX community; and the many clubs, foundations, and equipment manufacturers that helped make this DXpedition possible by providing much needed finances, equipment, and expert advice to the DXpedition team. It is with utmost respect that I say, thank you. For me, the Kermadec dream came through and now I can finally say, "Been there...Done That!"

—73 de AL, WA3YVN

New INDEXA Staff Member

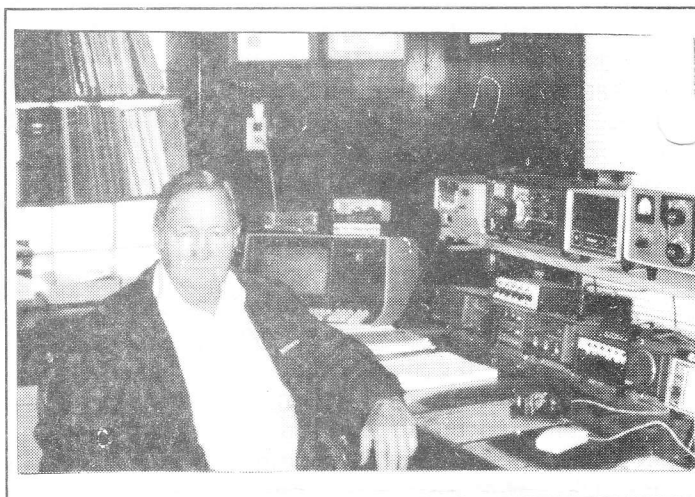
Royce Goodwin, WA4AFE

Royce Goodwin, WA4AFE, located in Rock Hill, SC, will be 71 years of age if July gets here.

Licensed as a Novice in 1972, he upgraded to Extra Class in 1987.

His awards to date are WAS; WAC (Novice); 5BDXCC; DXCC/CW; DXCC/SSB; DXCC/10, 40, and 80 meters. He has 318 countries confirmed and is waiting for the 5A to come in.

Following is the story of WA4AFE.



Royce Goodwin, WA4AFE

Amateur Radio has fascinated Royce since he was eleven years old. As a Boy Scout, he learned the code characters and acquired radio/communications awards and merit badges.

In 1943, he joined the U.S. Navy and later went into a patrol bomber combat aircrew. While going through aircrew training he qualified at 15 wpm Morse code. Although he was the air bomber in the ordinance group, he took turns with the radiomen by standing radio and radar watch duty while on patrol. The

desire to become an amateur radio operator never left him.

In 1972, at 47 years of age, he got his Novice ticket. After that, it's history. He seriously got into DXing in 1991 when he joined the INDEXA group.

His aim as an Amateur operator is to acquire the DXCC Honor Roll award and to serve INDEXA with patience, honor, and skill.

DXCC 2000

In January, the ARRL Board of Directors voted to form a committee to review the entire DXCC program. ARRL President, Rod Stafford, KB6ZV, selected John Kanode, N4MM, as the chairman of the committee.

Other committee members appointed by Rod are: Larry Price, W4RA; Rick Roderick, K5UR; Jim Maxwell, W6CF; Walt Stinson, W0CP; Garth Hamilton, VE3HO; Bob Winn, W5KNE; Wayne Mills, N7NG; Bill Kennamer, K5FUV; and Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH.

The purpose of the group is to "make necessary recommendations in order to encourage broader participation by more amateurs, make the program more equitable, create better understood criteria for DXCC 'countries,' improve the process of reviewing requests for additions and deletions to the ARRL DXCC List, and increase efficiency in the administration of the program."

The goal is to have any changes in effect by the year 2000.

As members of the DXCC program, your suggestions and comments are welcome. Your input may be sent to the:

DXCC 2000 Committee
c/o ARRL
225 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111-1494

Before you jot down your comments, consider a few points.

There have been—and will be—anticipated or assumed changes in print or generated on the DX web. These are just that—assumed changes. The 2000 Committee hasn't met yet!—the first meeting isn't until July. This meeting will be an organizational meeting focusing on the methods and procedures necessary to achieve the committee's objectives. The committee is now open for comments and its progress will be reported in news releases.

With qualified Amateurs on the committee, we can be assured that the integrity and ethics of the DXCC program will be protected.

We think the results of these changes will be for the benefit of all amateurs worldwide.

5A1A—Stateside Manager

The stateside QSL manager for the July '95 operation of 5A1A is Carl Smith, N4AA. Carl is the manager for *U.S. stations only!* He doesn't have the cards or logs yet, but he will soon. The only requirement is that you include an SASE with your QSL request.

Any enclosed donations will be forwarded to W4BRE who has a special "5A1A account." W4BRE will continue to serve as the collection point for Toly's financial aid.

Carl's, N4AA, mailing address is:

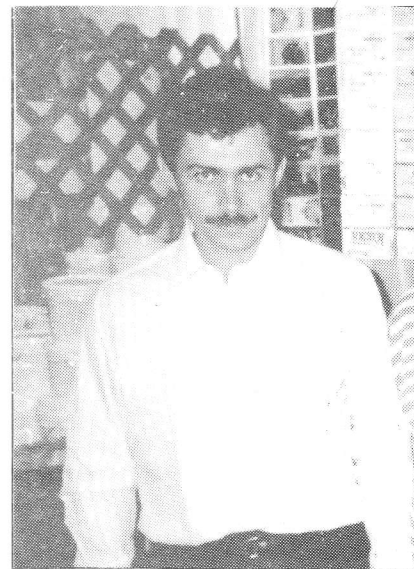
P. O. Box 6843
Asheville, NC 28816-6843

If you QSL'ed to the original LZ or OM managers, or if you QSL'ed recently to Toly's direct post office box in Kiev, you *do not* need to QSL again. Toly will answer all of these 100%.

Other countries should still QSL to:

Anatoly Kirilenko
P. O. Box 439/3
Kiev-151
252151, UKRAINE

Toly's only request is that \$1.00 be included for return postage.



Toly, UT3UY (5A1A)

Do not put callsigns on envelopes.

Do not QSL to Toly for the continuing 5A1A club station contacts. Instead, follow their directions.

Caution: On anything going to Libya, do not put anything showing "USA" and do not use stamps with the American flag.

New Life Members....

EA8TK,
K6BTT,
N9LWI,

VS6VF,
ZP5MAL,
N4DPC,

DL3HTR,
EA1FFC,
JK6ISK,

K1OQG,
I5HSJ,
and,

HL3DE,
AB6BX,
JH2CYU

Extra Help Provided By....

HL3DE,
YC6PUP,
I5HSJ,
OE5OO,
KD4TTE,
EA8TK,
WB9SHC,
N5DRV,
LA1KJA,
K1SRR,

ZP5MAL,
IK4AUY,
VK4FW,
K1SRR,
KB7ZTV,
JG5UNQ,
DL6GV,
W6KUS,
W1WRN,
and,

N6AHV,
N4UCJ,
WDX2TAU,
N9LWI,
W5KFN,
KP4XX,
DL3HTR,
K7EWG,
KE5PO,
JF2JXE

K8CH,
NI6P,
WA2VZQ,
N7SQU,
AA7WP,
BV5DR,
VS6VF,
KA3VIY,
W6UPI,

WA1ZIC,
EA1FFC,
AA7KG,
AA7UC,
KM4LS,
AB4SW,
DJ9ZB,
KH6CF,
JH2CYU,

Cocos-Keeling DXpedition '96—VK9CT

by Bill Horner, VK4FW

During the recent Cocos-Keeling DXpedition, propagation was lousy and the weather wasn't much better.

Here are the QSO statistics.

SSB	5,825
CW	5,256
FM	26
YL	702

Total QSOs 11,107

QSL info

If you need a card, QSL to:

Oceania DX Group
P. O. Box 929
Gympie, QLD, 4570
AUSTRALIA


Sponsors

We extend special thanks to the major sponsors: INDEXA, NCDXF, EUDXF, DDXG, WWDXC, Lone Star DX, Emtronics, Comanterra, and WA Security.

Another DXpedition in the making

The Oceania DX Group is planning for a major operation in 1997 to one of the rare Pacific islands. The operation will require eight operators for twenty-three days and it's planned for an August/September time frame.

Inquiries can be directed to the Oceania DX Group (address above.)



CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-765-4267

Hours of Operation
M-F 9-6
Sat. 9-3

13424 Railway Drive
Oklahoma City, OK. 73114


SUPPORT THOSE
THAT SUPPORT
"INDEXA"

CALL DOC'S for fast ordering and quick help



And all your other favorite lines of Amateur gear
DOC'S COMMUNICATIONS
702 Chickamauga Ave.
Rooseville, GA 30741
(706) 866-2302 or 861-5610

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE
with MOSLEY ANTENNAS



314-994-7872
10812 Ambassador Blvd. St Louis, MO 63132

PROLOG QSL ROUTE DATABASE

48,000 direct and manager routes, add or edit as you like. Prefix, bearing, and grid square info. Supports SAM & Buckmaster databases. \$22 USD including S/H. Str update subscriptions add \$36. Ask about our full featured logging program. DATAMATRIX, 5560 JACKSON LOOP NE, RIO RANCHO, NM 87124 (505)-892-5669

THE QSL MAN
NOW!! Free QSLs

Join the **W4MPY QSL CLUB** and qualify for **FREE QSLs**
Write for complete information
682 Mt. Pleasant Road
Monetta, SC 29105
Phone or FAX (803) 685-7117
Email: W4mpy@aol.com
<http://www.mindspring.com/~W4MPY>

INDEXA NEWSLETTER

First Class Mail



INDEXA
P. O. Box 607
Rock Hill, S.C.
29731 U.S.A.

Please check your label for
expiration date